

## **Assessment of Various Finds from Castle Quarry, Ancaster (CQEA 08)**

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A small quantity of finds, consisting of fired clay, clay tobacco pipe and a fragment of stone, were recovered from an excavation on land adjacent to the Castle Quarry, Ancaster, carried out by PCA Lincoln Ltd and were submitted for identification and assessment. The fired clay is probably from a wattle and daub structure made from locally-available raw materials and the clay pipe is of 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

### **Description**

#### **Clay Tobacco Pipe**

A single fragment of clay pipe was recovered. It comes from the stem of a pipe with a floral-decorated seam. These were produced from the early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards using mass-produced moulds. Without a maker's mark it is not possible to say where the pipe was made but pipemakers were based at both Newark and Lincoln, which are the most likely sources.

#### **Fired Clay**

Fragments of fired clay were recovered from contexts 902, 904 and 905. All were examined at x20 magnification and fragments of oolitic limestone were present in each case. This suggests that the clay was obtained from a source close to the Lincoln Edge, where Lower Jurassic clays are exposed on the hillside and incorporated into colluvial deposits. A wattle impression, 10 mm diameter, was present on a fragment from context 904 which had a slightly concave surface and the fragments from contexts 902 and 905 had flat surfaces but were too small to preserve wattle impressions. The slight curvature on the fragment from 904 might be due to it coming from the inner face of a domed or curved structure but is quite likely to reflect the irregular nature of daub from a flat structure.

### **Assessment**

The fired clay is all likely to have come from a wattle and daub structure or structures. Such structures could be of prehistoric, Roman or later date. The clay pipe dates to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Retention**

The finds are stratified and should therefore be retained for future re-examination.

**Further work**

No further work is recommended.

## Appendix 1 Catalogue of finds

Context	class	Description	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight
406	PIPECLAY	19 CENTURY PIPE STEM NEAR BOWL WITH LEAFED BRANCH ON BOTH SIDES	PIPECLAY		CLAYPIPE	STEM	1	1	1
905	GEO		GEO	SHELLY OOLITIC LIMESTONE	GEO	BS	5	1	42
902	FCLAY	PROBABLY DAUB	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	6	6	99
902	FCLAY	PROBABLY DAUB	FCLAY		SURFACE	BS	4	4	49
905	FCLAY	PROBABLY DAUB	FCLAY		SURFACE?	BS	1	1	25
902	FCLAY	PROBABLY DAUB	FCLAY		SURFACE?	BS	2	1	52
904	FCLAY	WATTLE MARK 10 ACROSS; SLIGHTLY CONCAVE SURFACE	FCLAY		DAUB; SURFACE	BS	1	1	37